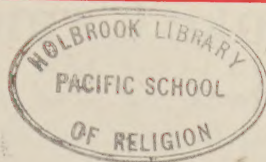

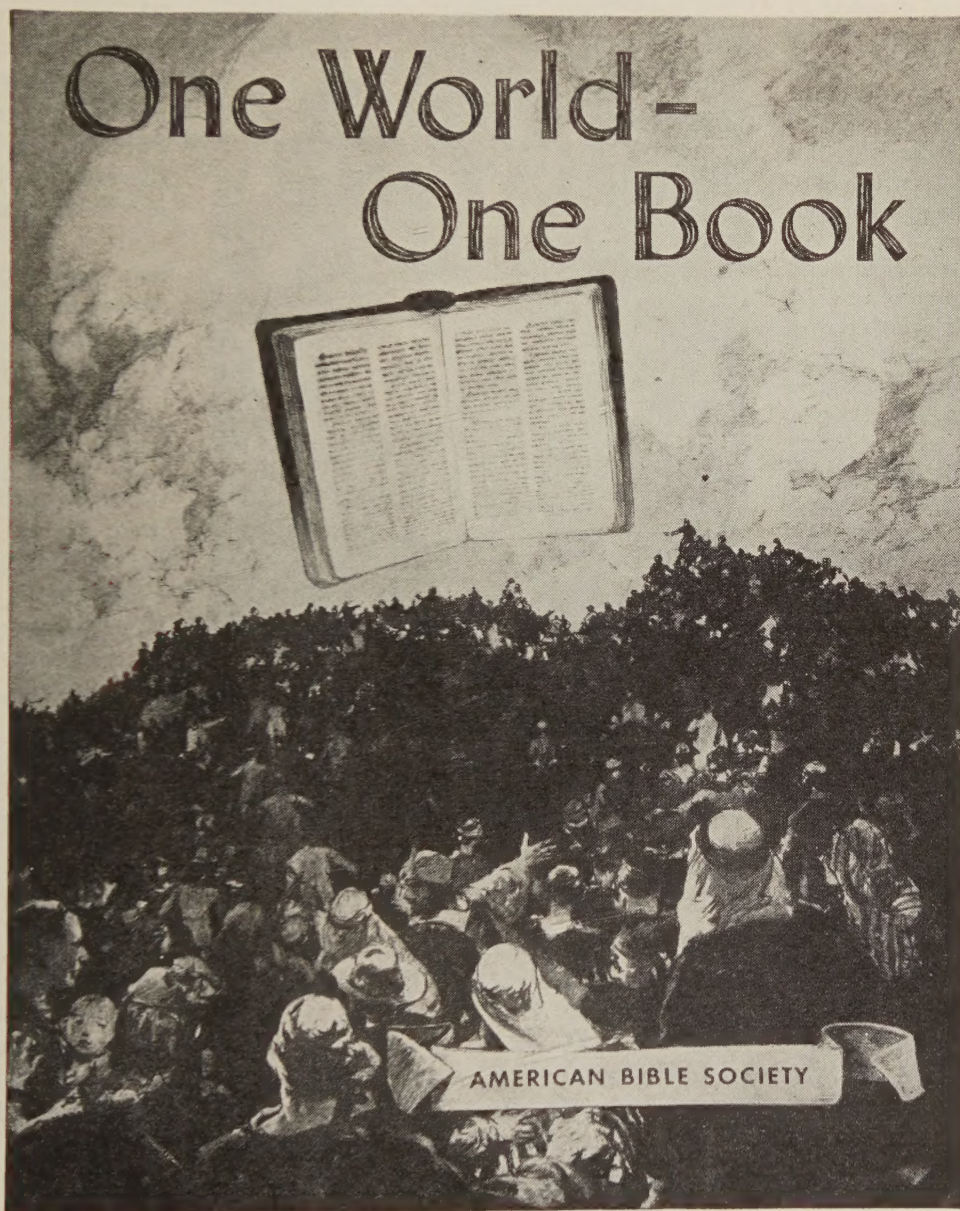


NOVEMBER 1947



 BIBLE
SOCIETY

Record



WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING
Thanksgiving to Christmas

How St. Luke Came to the Subanun People

A story of how the war served to give a tribe of people a better translation of the Gospel of Luke than they might otherwise have had

BY MARGARET T. HILLS

IN JANUARY of last year there came to the Bible House a letter from Rev. S. D. Lommasson, a former missionary of the Christian and Missionary Alliance stationed in the Philippines:

When the war began we had in process of printing in Manila a translation of the Book of Luke in the Subanun dialect. The printing must have been almost finished at the outbreak of the war, but we do not know what happened, as we hid in the jungles until the recapture of the Islands by the Americans and were shipped home before V-J Day. We have a proof copy of the translation, with corrections. Just recently we learned that your Agent, Mr. Fonger, is in Manila, so we are writing to ask what you have heard regarding the printing office. Also whether it would be possible to get the translation printed...

Now, as *Bible Society Record* readers know, Secretary Fonger's records were completely destroyed, including any proofs or manuscripts of the Subanun dialect he may have had. A copy of the manuscript he refers to as originally drafted had been examined by the Versions Department of the Society in New York in the spring of 1941, and there had been correspondence with Mr. Lommasson about certain changes recommended. A manuscript was in the safe in New York, but it would not be like the one that had gone to the printer in Manila. It also came to light that the proof copy Mr. Lommasson had was not that sent the printers in

Manila, but a set of proofs which one of the native pastors had kept. It had been used by the people in the jungles all during the Occupation. Its constant use had resulted in the discovery of errors

and places where the translation could be improved. These suggestions had been entered on the copy during the four years of its practical service to the Subanun people, and it was this corrected copy that has now been printed. An edition of 3,000 copies was issued, the costs for composition, proofreading, printing and binding being \$1,881.30. Mr. Lommasson has sent a contribution of \$1,340 toward these costs.

The only part of the Bible previously available to these people was the Gospel of Mark, published in 1939. How much it must have meant to the Christians of this tribe to have the precious stories of the Savior's life included by St. Luke but not found in Mark! — the Christmas stories; the parable of the Good Samaritan; the parable of the Prodigal Son and the fuller account of

the death and resurrection of Christ.

There are about 100,000 of these Subanun people living in the Zamboanga Province, that stocky tail that protrudes from the western side of Mindanao. They do not live in villages; in fact, seldom are two houses near each other. They live in the mountains and go to the coast for marketing, so

Continued on page 140



*Native pastor Lumbia and Mrs. Lommasson
visiting a Subanun home*

Bible Society Record

A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE
HOLY SCRIPTURES

VOLUME 92 NOVEMBER • 1947 NUMBER 9

20,000,000 Bibles Short

WHEN this issue of the *Bible Society Record* comes to its readers, the United States will be considering with great seriousness the need for emergency aid to Europe and the need for that larger aid implied in the Marshall Plan. Mr. James Reston, a correspondent for the *New York Times*, attended the European Economic Conference in Paris, where estimates of sixteen nations for the Marshall Plan were compiled. He reports that the conference really has discovered that "the whole fabric of mutual cooperation between individuals and communities in Europe has been badly shaken."

This means not merely that factories and railroads and mines and farms have been destroyed and have to be reestablished at great expense. It means that the good will and faith of men toward one another has so broken down that business just can't be done. Good will, faith—things you can't see or touch—they appear at no more than \$1 on any balance sheet. Yet today the whole life of man, especially with everybody interdependent on everybody else, is imperiled and shattered for the lack of these two priceless assets. Truly, man does not live by bread alone.

If we would all only say to ourselves, "We will give faith and good will their full chance with our eyes," then the greatest single step toward the world's recovery would have been taken. And further, every fraction of faith and good will that any man expresses today is multiplied many fold in its influence by the very intensity of the times.

Millions of people in Europe and the world over know that few possessions that the world has are so powerful in making for faith and good will as is

the Bible. That is why, in numbers truly great, people are asking for it. They know that man really lives "by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." They know that the material things and the human relationships men so desperately need will come only if they "seek first the kingdom of God." If these hungry, distraught lands had the Bible and it had been given its chance in their hearts, the climate would begin to change and the upward turn would commence. But these hapless millions cannot make the start without the Bible, and they cannot produce it for themselves.

The Conference of the United Bible Societies at Amersfoort in Holland last spring estimated that the world was short from 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 Scriptures. "Short" means that many people want Bibles and Testaments for their own use *now* and cannot get them. Just as the Marshall Plan calls for from \$20,000,000,000 to \$26,000,000,000 to help Europe to get on its feet, so the Bible Societies estimate the need for the Bible.

The people of America are weighing the sacrifice they must make to lift the world on to life instead of death and starvation. Christian churches, committees, men and women of leadership, and all of us in the rank and file, must be asking ourselves a still deeper question. What are we to do if the spiritual life of 20,000,000 people, whose spirit may turn the balance of the moral climate of the world, lack the Book that *they want and must have* to help them and their neighbors create and maintain faith in God and good will toward each other?

Twenty billion dollars may fail of its purpose unless twenty million Bibles are put to work.

The Word of Life

REV. Francisco García,
Member of the Cuba
Council of Churches,
Havana, Cuba:

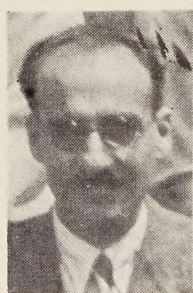
I was born into a Roman Catholic family and was baptized into the Roman Church, which I attended until I was twelve years old. From twelve to twenty years of age I had no active Christian life, except that I counted myself a Catholic and said my prayers. I knew nothing of the Bible; I had only a faint idea that there were certain Christian documents, documents of the Church.



Rev. Francisco
García

One day a friend asked me to come to his home for a meeting of Christians. I did not go at first, but the invitation was repeated over a period of between two and three weeks. One night I went. A Cuban minister preached, and I was interested enough to return to several meetings. Then a New Testament was given to me. Later I responded to the invitation to accept Christ. I did this because I had come to know that I was a sinner and needed a Savior. For three months I was a member of a training class for church membership, and after this I was admitted into the church.

REV. Mahmod Rezavi, Pastor of St. Luke's Church, Isfahan, Iran:



Rev. Mahmod
Rezavi

My home was one with an erroneous conception of God. My whole heart and mind became permeated with the Moslem faith. With this faith I was complacently satisfied. I regarded Christians as infidels. When my father died I was sent to a school and was enrolled in a class in ethics. In reality it was a Bible class. I was not interested; nothing gripped my heart or mind. However, I did see that the man teaching the class was different from other men. I could see that he loved me; I knew it every time he smiled.

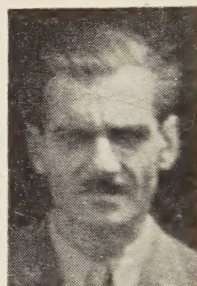
Then a man who had formerly been a Moslem but who had become a Christian took charge of the class. I asked him why he had changed his faith. His answer helped, but I was still puzzled and I lacked courage to face the truth. Then I began to go out for long walks to read both the Bible and the Koran. I went also to Moslem teachers with my questions in order to answer

This is the second and final installment of six short life-sketches of prominent Christian leaders, revealing the part the Bible contributed to their conversion and growth in grace. They were given before the International Missionary Council meeting at Whitby in July. The first installment appeared in the October *Bible Society Record*

my own teacher, the Moslem who had become a Christian. In him I saw the same love that I had seen in the missionary teacher. The Allah of Islam was transcended by the God of the Christian faith, and this God became

real and near to me. He, I came to believe, had in Christ visited and redeemed his people. Previously worship meant to me the appeasing of a divine dictator. Now it was different; I was gripped by the love of Jesus, and the cloud which had hidden the real God was swept away. I was a sinner then, and I am a sinner now; but then my whole nature was unregenerate; now I have Christ when I fall, and He lifts me up. How He saves me is still a mystery; but He does.

COLONEL Robert Ernest Van Goethem, Chief Protestant Chaplain, Belgian and Colonial Forces:



Colonel R. E.
Van Goethem

It is said that a fortune is made and lost in many families every four generations. One generation is very poor and works hard; the next becomes very wealthy; and the third becomes very lazy and careless and loses the family fortune; the fourth generation then starts over again. My great grandfather was converted by a colporteur of the British and Foreign Bible Society and was an active Christian; my grandfather was a nominal church member; my parents were

free thinkers; I am a Christian minister.

In my home no discussion of religion ever occurred. I was educated in a liberal school. All of my friends were liberals and all were anti-Catholics. In 1916 I was taken prisoner by the Germans and was not liberated until in 1918. At that time my one consuming desire was to be free, and I was fast becoming wild and reckless in my living. For this reason my father thought it would be well to send me to Canada to live the life of a farmer. He bought for me a large farm in Alberta. It was 160 acres of bush and called only for hard work. I spent most of my time in the town, and in a little while lost all I had, including the farm. Then I went to Alaska, hoping that in a new environment I would be able to make a new beginning; but I was still restless and went down the coast as far as Los Angeles. All the time I was vainly searching for something that would satisfy me. It never occurred to me, however, to search for it in the Church.

One evening on the streets of Los Angeles I ran into a group of young people who were conducting a Chris-

tian meeting. One invited me to come with them into the church. I went and listened, but all that they said was as if they were speaking in a language which I did not understand. All the terms they used were strange to me. Even so, the Spirit of God convicted me of sin. When the good man in charge of the meeting asked if anyone present wanted to "believe in Jesus as Savior," I said "Yes"; for those words were a light to my soul. In an after-meeting he asked me if I wanted to pray. I replied that I did not know how. Then he taught me the prayer of the publican: "God be merciful to me a sinner." This became my prayer, and I went home knowing that something had changed me. I continued to go to the meetings and I read the New Testament.

Later I returned to my home in Belgium. No longer was I seeking a change of environment, for I had experienced a change of heart. God's Word continued to be life to me. During the war I was put in prison for preaching. A fellow prisoner said, "It is hell to be alone with oneself." I replied: "It is wonderful to be alone with God." Our communication had to be in secret, through prison walls. I managed to lend him my Bible. This he read; and when he was put to death, he said: "It is wonderful to be alone with God."

In this and in many ways I have learned: (1) that we must not rely on the experience of past generations; (2) that the Spirit of God applies the Word of God to the human heart and makes it the word of life; (3) that the Word of God is not bound.

When Youth Takes Hold

The Senior Secretary of the Society's Agency among Colored People reports on one of the projects he fathered with the customary consecrated skill which he disowns

BY DANIEL H. STANTON

NOT ONCE in my seventeen years here in Atlanta have I seen so much interest manifested by a youth group as I have seen this year. Through the fine cooperation of the principals of the Booker T. Washington and the David T. Howard High Schools we were able to do a really thorough-going piece of work. During the week beginning March 23 we talked to more than 10,000 high school students about the Bible and the American Bible Society, and their responsibility for reading it and sharing it. We distributed about 15,000 Gospels of John. We called it "The Bible and Good Citizenship Week." Every morning at 10 o'clock we met a section of the students at one high school, and later each day we did the same in the other. Then things began to happen.

The Gospels we distributed were faithfully read, a portion each day before the group meetings. As so often happens with individuals, now it happened in the group—they wanted to read the whole of the New Testament.

But this went further than the student groups themselves. One Sunday representatives of the group spoke in the various churches primarily to thank the pastors for their help in the program. Out of this came still a further development which we called "The Testament to My Pal Campaign," in which the students saw to it that their friends also received copies.

Just before the close of the campaign on June 3, came the unforgettable exercises of Friday, May 30. At 2:30 that afternoon more than 1,000 persons gathered underneath the trees at the corner of Beckwith and C Streets around a loudspeaker and found seats on the grass somewhat as they did when our Master was

here. A well-trained chorus was ready with appropriate music, and the bandmaster was there with his chimes to give the atmosphere an air of worship. Many ministers and laymen were on hand with the principals of both schools and the assistant superintendent of the city schools. They listened to four students as they made the 15th chapter of St. Luke, the 26th of Acts, the 11th of Hebrews and the 27th, 37th, 48th and 91st Psalms live in our ears. It was a thrilling affair, and Atlanta was delighted.

A week later, on June 6, I watched the graduating exercise of the Booker T. Washington High, when 600 young people received their certificates of graduation and a New Testament. They and all of us were happy, including the members of the Board of Education that were present to witness the closing exercise. The students seemed almost as happy to get the Testaments as to receive their certificates. The program was packed with implications. It had been eleven weeks since the movement had begun, and this was a fitting climax.

Yet even this was not the end of the story. The whole idea of the New Testament distribution (they distributed almost 6,000 altogether) started at the Friendship Baptist Church, and during the entire period of activity in the two high schools the boys of Scout Troop 95 of that church were making a survey in one of the neglected sections of the city to determine the Bible needs in the homes and to discover, from those homes where there were Bibles, which, if any, were their Bible-reading practices.

When one sees all that has been going on with the Bible in Atlanta this year, he thanks God and takes courage.

Aloha—1947

An American Bible Society Secretary returns to Hawaii

BY FREDERICK W. CROPP

OVER a century ago, in 1820 to be exact, the first American missionaries of the Congregational Church arrived in Hawaii. They had been stirred to sail out because of the life and death of an Hawaiian Christian youth, Spukahaia.

Soon the people of the Islands were asking for the Gospel in their own language. How they received it, printed by the American Bible Society; how, in less than thirty years, over 50,000 Hawaiians had become Christians; how the Hawaiian church has grown; how today half a million people live in this natural paradise, a challenge to the power of the Gospel to do for them what it did in these same Islands a hundred years ago—of these matters we have not the space to write.



A close-up of interracial Hawaii: Students of Mid-Pacific Institute. Rear, left to right: Mary Arae, Samoan-Hawaiian; Lino Buenconsego, Spanish-Filipino; George Baybrook, Anglo-Saxon; Harry Aguiro, Filipino. Front, left to right: Jane Nakamura, Japanese; Thelma Ching, Chinese; Anna Kong, Korean

Rather we here record in barest outline the latest chapter in the long history of the American Bible Society's service to these people who live in "the loveliest fleet of islands that lie at anchor in any ocean."

After many months of preparation and with an itinerary carefully mapped in advance, Secretary and Mrs. Bayless of the Pacific District sailed for a six weeks' tour of the Islands on May 16 of this year. Secretary Bayless was no stranger to the Islands. For over six years he had been a pastor on the Island of Kauai, terminating his service there some fourteen years ago. Ever since he has

been a Secretary of the Bible Society, Dr. Bayless has been in close touch with the Christian leaders there. Every year he has carefully estimated the Scripture needs of the Hawaiian people and has supplied Scriptures in many languages to missionaries and native pastors.

But now, laden with Scriptures, American Bible Society literature, exhibit material and moving picture film, Secretary Bayless fulfilled his dream of the years of visiting from island to island on this scenic mission field.

The statistics are in themselves impressive. There were 38 speaking engagements: in church worship services, youth groups, service clubs, week-day schools of religion, the radio; and in isolated sugar-cane and pineapple plantation camps. The attendance ranged from 35 at a remote center to 550 in a city church. Most church service engagements were in Congregational, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopal churches. Elder William J. Harris of the Seventh Day Adventists was most enthusiastic, and as a result, Secretary Bayless spoke in seven of their churches in Honolulu and the outer Islands. From Oahu to Hawaii to Maui and back to Oahu and to Kauai he sailed, and sometimes flew, from May 21 to June 30. Scriptures were distributed as he went along, including over 33,000 Gospels of Mark specially imprinted for this tour. Arrangements were made for more effective distribution through the many missionary groups in Hawaii. Five seminars on the use of the Bible were conducted for ministers, Sunday-school teachers and other church leaders. As a result of his addresses and sermons, over four hundred persons expressed their continuing interest by subscribing to the *Bible Society Record* through contributions of at least a dollar to the Society. This very month of November, one of the first fruits of Secretary Bayless' visit will ripen in widespread observance of the Thanksgiving-to-Christmas Worldwide Bible Reading period. Somehow the Secretary found time and opportunity to snap several dozen colored pictures in an effort to secure a pictorial story of Old and New Hawaii and to show something of the missionary story and the contribution which the Bible has made in its unfolding across the years, and how it serves Hawaii today.

The Bible Society's worldwide work was laid before the ship's congregations on both the outgoing and the homeward journey, and a pulpit Bible was presented for use in the Sunday services of the ship.

Such a vigorous Secretary on such an exhausting journey accomplished wonders for the Bible cause. Under divine guidance the Bible came alive in the Hawaiian Islands a century and a quarter ago. There, upon a foundation of Polynesian affability, the Christian message was built into the

life of the people. The whole world today needs what the Hawaiian people call Aloha, and what we call, for want of a similar word, Good Will.

The thousands of Scripture volumes, the stirring messages and the programs for advance which our Secretary Bayless left in Hawaii comprise a telling contribution on the part of the Churches of the mainland to these our fellow Americans who make their home on those enchanting islands which lie like "a string of pearls nestling on the bosom of the opal waters of the Pacific."

The Ideal Distributor

Miss Mattie Perry is a walking, talking illustration of what God can do with a person wholly dedicated to His cause

BY BENJAMIN H. SMITH

LOOK at this face! It seems to speak even from the page. When Miss Perry tells her story, it is irresistible. Rarely does she ask a local community to give her the cost of Scriptures she plans to donate, but they do it.



Miss Perry

And what is her story?

It would fill a book, for it covers over fifty years of service around the world. Converted at twelve, Miss Perry dedicated her life to mission work. She has made the Bible her own, having written with her own hand—and published—sixteen volumes of Bible commentaries and interpretations. She is constantly teaching the Bible and has developed

useful courses of Bible study for other teachers.

Of her early days Miss Perry says, "He flooded my soul with love to everybody, and I began to pray with and for them. . . . I prayed my way through college and missionary training institute. Then the Lord gave me a missionary training school and used me to help others to go. He then sent me to five countries and gave me souls for Jesus there. In 1893 I settled the salary question and since then have trusted the Lord for everything, and still do. I empty my purse the first day of every month and start out empty-handed and live the little-child life with My Lord.

"A year in Bible Lands was a great help to me."

Miss Perry has supplied thousands of Gospel Portions to mission workers and others and urged the conduct of house-to-house campaigns, to which she has contributed Bibles, Testaments and Gospels for individuals, schools, prisons, hospitals. The lands to which her long, loving arm of service has reached include China, Korea, India, Palestine, Mexico and Cuba.

She likes to recall what she calls her "climax sale." It was over fifty years ago. She was in evangelistic work and also serving as a distributor for the Bible Society. She had a supply of Bibles along. She says, "I sold them in the meetings. My fifty Bibles went as fast as we could pass them out, and still there were hands with the money in them, but no more Bibles."

Miss Perry has always been able to adjust her service to the shifting needs about her. During the late war she bought and distributed over 5,000 Testaments to enlisted men, besides many whole Bibles and over half a million of her own tracts. She heard from soldiers on almost every major fighting front, many of whom were won to Christ through her interest in them.

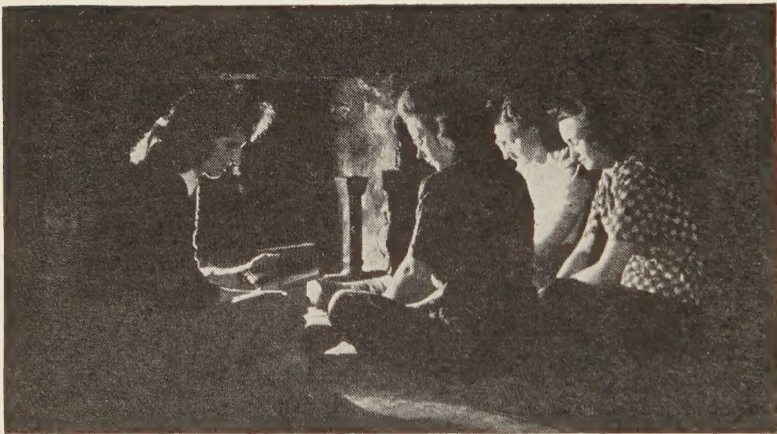
Now she is concentrating on the men in the Veterans' Hospitals. She writes, "We made our first donation to twenty rooms on June 6, and since then the Lord has given us the privilege of contributing to seven more Veterans' Hospitals. The funds come just about the time a new door opens, and we walk in with the blessed Word. Some have accepted Christ as a result."

Continued on page 140

WORLDWIDE

Thanksgiving

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.—Deuteronomy 6: 6, 7.



Open the BOOK and Read!

For a few years before World War I, one of the most popular songs was entitled "Everybody's Doing It." The song had little merit but its title has a meaning way beyond its own day. For what earnest Christian does not know the value of getting many people to do the same things at the same time? Specifically, the fact that millions of people across the world are reading identical Bible passages from Thanksgiving to Christmas causes other people to join the procession. The impetus of concerted reading is a powerful lever to encourage people to start.

Encouragement of Worldwide Bible Reading helps every individual and every activity in a congregation or society. Promotion of Bible reading in a local church interferes with none of the usual ongoing activities. It undergirds them and invests them with new spirit and with divine life. It is the most valuable supplement possible to any other emphasis of the church, regular or special. But we want the seed of Bible reading to be sown so as to bear many fold, not to sprout up quickly from Thanksgiving to Christmas and then wither away by the time 1948 has come. After a good start let us be sure that Bible reading is not suffocated by daily chores or the cares and pleasures of the world.

May every believer in Bible reading take to heart seriously the truth that wider use of the Bible starts with himself. One who *does* read the Bible daily, does by his very regularity demonstrate his conviction that the Scriptures are a healthy, vital and strategic element in his personal life.

The ultimate translation of our Bible (now available in 1,080 tongues) is its translation into our personal lives. The Bible must be opened reverently, yes—but also regularly and expectantly. There is no substitute for conscientious Bible reading. Open the BOOK and read!

BIBLE READING

Christmas

Who Ever Found a Thrill in a Shipping Room?

Well, we do at the Bible House, when we see Worldwide Bible Reading materials (bookmarks, posters, responsive readings, sermonics helps, suggestions for use) being wrapped and labeled for Athens, Istanbul, Saudi Arabia, Cairo, Bangkok, Shanghai, Manila, Lima, Rio de Janeiro, Havana, Mexico City and other international centers. The value of regular study of the Bible—for its principal use as a book of religion—is becoming increasingly apparent to Christian workers of all ages, classes and nationalities. To them the primary appeal of the Bible is not intellectual or moral but religious. Here are the worldwide facts:

It is read in the spirit of prayer.

It is read in confidence that it will inspire the reader personally.

It is read not to get ideas about God, but to find God Himself and His salvation.

It is read as the revelation of God in Christ.

It is read as the revelation of our deepest and best selves.

It is read to reveal how we may overcome our shortcomings.

It is read because the voices calling out from up and down its printed columns are never still.

It is read that we may fall in step and march along with the great people who troop across its pages.

It is read with high expectation because so many other people have read it with immeasurable profit.

It is read because so many people are reading it.



Teaching an illiterate Mexican mother to read the Gospel in her own language

*To read the Bible
through and
through
Brings wondrous
words of life to
view.
Words of wisdom,
counsel, love,
And inspiration
from above.
He will not falter
in the strife
Who builds upon
the Word of Life.
When in perplexity
and doubt,
The Bible points the
right way out.*

This is the Worldwide Bible Reading Bookmark—Cut along this line—Use it in your Bible

Cut here and fold in center

One World-One Book

*These readings feature Bible selections which
bring out many helpful truths
concerning the theme.*

Thanksgiving, Nov. 27

Psalm 145	"One God"
Fri... Psalm 103	"One Blessing"
Sat... John 3:1-21	"One Birth"

Sunday, Nov. 30

John 1:1-18	"One Word"
Mon... Matt. 5:1-16	"One Discipleship"
Tues... Matt. 6:19-34	"One Treasure"
Wed... Psalm 90	"One Dwelling"
Thurs. John 14:1-21	"One Comforter"
Fri... James 1	"One Wisdom"
Sat... Philip. 2:1-18	"One Mind"

Sunday, Dec. 7

John 15:1-17	"One Vine"
Mon... Psalms 91; 121	"One Keeper"
Tues... John 17:1-26	"One Prayer"
Wed... 1 Cor. 13	"One Love"
Thurs. Luke 15:1-10; Rom. 1:16, 17	"One Purpose"

Fri... Luke 15:11-32

	"One Redemption"
Sat... Acts 17:16-31	"One Family"

Universal Bible Sunday, Dec. 14

Psalm 119:1-19, v. 89, v. 105	"One Book"
Mon... Psalm 67	"One People"
Tues... John 4:5-30	"One Truth"
Wed... Psalm 19	"One World"
Thurs. Deut. 5:6-27	"One Law"
Fri... II Tim. 3:12-4:8	"One Crown"
Sat... Rev. 21:1-7	"One Heaven"

Sunday, Dec. 21 "One Burden-Bearer"

Isa. 53; Matt. 11:28-30	
Mon... Luke 1:26-38	"One Son"
Tues... Luke 1:39-56	"One Song"
Wed... Luke 1:57-80	"One Prophecy"

Christmas, Dec. 25 "One Saviour"

Isa. 40:1-5; Luke 2:1-20, 40

If you desire a schedule of daily Readings for 1948, ask your minister, write to your denominational headquarters, or send request to American Bible Society, Dept. U, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, New York.

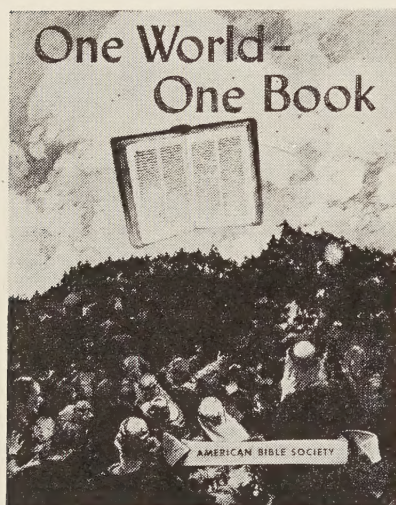
"He Lives in the Sticks"

A Layman in New Jersey tells how he awoke a whole County to more reading of the Bible

BY WARREN HIRES TURNER

Cut here and fold in center

WORLDWIDE *Bible Reading*



THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS 1947

How to Find Help From Bible Reading

- 1—Read quietly and slowly. "Not snapshots but time exposures" should be the rule.
- 2—Read alertly and thoughtfully. Imagine the scenes.
- 3—Search for the personal message each day's passage has for YOU.
- 4—Your inner response to God's message is vital. When He condemns, bow penitently; when He offers help, place your hope on that assurance; when He commands, obey.
- 5—Underline passages which strike fire. Copy them and repeat them aloud.
- 6—Memorize one key verse daily.
- 7—Set aside and keep a definite daily time for reading.
- 8—Make it a habit; enter the New Year as a daily reader of the Bible.

For additional free copies of this leaflet, or to send contributions to further this program of reading, write to

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, DEPT. U
450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

This is the reverse side of the bookmark folder—Cut along this line—Use it in your Bible

As a Christian layman, I felt last fall that there should be some way of localizing both the appeal and the need as regards Bible use and the urgency of the promotion of Worldwide Bible Reading. The governors of most if not all of the forty-eight states issued special proclamations in support of it and this is fine, but most of us only see our governor just before election and see very rarely his declarations of non-political significance. Living in the "sticks," we know our local officers and see them every few days. We read almost daily in the town newspaper what they have to say. So I told Mayor Potts of Morristown, New Jersey what the governors did for Worldwide Bible Reading, and asked him to issue such a proclamation. We discussed it for two hours in his study one Sunday afternoon and together prepared a suitable proclamation.

The Mayor was interested greatly and had much admiration for the work of the American Bible Society. He volunteered to relieve me of the task of visiting or communicating with the other fifteen mayors in our county, Morris County, as well as twelve chairmen of township committees. He wrote separate letters to each official, enclosing typewritten copies of this proclamation in duplicate, requesting each one to sign one copy of the proclamation and return it to him. Within two weeks every one of the fifteen mayors or their representatives had signed, and all but three chairmen of outlying townships responded affirmatively in time for getting his name on the proclamation before it went to the printer. The proclamation was published in all local papers without expense and large cardboard copies for window display were distributed throughout the county, at a total cost of only fifty dollars.

Our next hurdle was effective distribution of the printed proclamation and the Worldwide Bible Reading bookmarks. About seventy or more of the churches in Morris County belong to an organization called The Greater Parish of Madison; also of Dover; also of Boonton. They employ a paid Secretary of Religious Education. This secretary did us the good service of placing the cards of proclamation and thousands of the reading list in packages at ten strategic points. Here ministers, committee men or Boy Scouts picked up their materials and placed them in store windows, railroad stations, restaurants and such public places.

In addition to this publicity, the ministers of most of the churches read the proclamation with its signatures at Thanksgiving Day and subsequent Sunday services. About one thousand worshippers at the Union Service held in the county

Continued on page 140

Okinawa, Island of Opportunity

Over two million G.I.'s have been on this Island, and thousands have come home imbued with the desire to help its people

BY R. A. BETTS

A FORMER Military Government officer on Okinawa recently wrote to the headquarters of the Foreign Missions Conference in New York as follows:

Every officer and man who has been on Okinawa with whom I have ever talked has agreed that the Okinawans got the worst deal, while they are the most friendly, the most appreciative and the most worthy of all the peoples our G.I.'s came across. I was on Okinawa with American Military Government, where I was a welfare officer in a village of 8,000 people, later in charge of an orphanage of 700 children and education officer for 2,400 children. I am dedicating what resources I may have, by way of altruistic concern and interest, to see what may be done in the field of American social service for these people. Should your organization be interested, I am prepared to furnish you with all necessary data on climate, economics, culture and religious needs. Okinawa is the most wonderfully fertile missionary field on this planet.

In expressing the need of increased mission work on the Island, the present governor, Shikiya Koshin, described the Okinawans as refined and cultured, with a tradition going back to the 16th century. In writing to a Christian leader in this country, the governor, after explaining that the Islanders were originally animistic in their religious beliefs, continued:

"Buddhism was introduced into the Island by the Japanese in about the fourteenth century, and Shintoism was imported in the seventeenth century, but seems to have had little impact upon the people even after annexation to the Japanese empire," he said.

"The dwindling of the native cult, the long lapse with little contact from the centers of Buddhism, and the necessity of an outward conformity to the tenets of Shintoism have produced a religious neutrality and apathy in the Island that is probably unequaled in any other place in the world."

Meanwhile the little band of native Christians on Okinawa are valiantly doing their part. Before the war there were just a few hundred Christians among Okinawa's 580,000 people. Shortly after V-J Day, Toyama Seiken, a lay leader of this little band, organized the Okinawa Christian Association. He could round up only six ordained ministers, so to supplement their strength he called

together other laymen like himself and commissioned them as what he called "acting pastors" and sent them out to organize groups in the strategic centers of the Island.

Through the cooperation of officers of the military government Toyama was able to distribute mimeographed hymnals and tracts. Then a Seabee took hold and secured from the American Bible Society a large quantity of Japanese Scriptures. Youth work, women's work, Sunday schools were speedily organized all over the Island.

The results are just what you would expect. Instead of ten congregations there are now more than thirty, and all united in one association. The few hundred prewar believers and sympathizers have now become thousands. Toyama estimates that half the population is now seriously considering conversion,

A recent news release on Okinawa closed with these glowing words: "Okinawa represents a special responsibility for Americans . . . it is territory hallowed by the sacrifice of thousands of American boys. Whatever is done for Okinawa is, in a sense of memorial, dedicated to preserving the ideals for which they gave their lives."

One thing that can and must be done is to see that there is no lack of Scriptures for Okinawa. As the way is opened the American Bible Society stands ready to respond with such portions of the Japanese Scriptures now in production, as are called for to be supplied to the people of Okinawa.

As Martin Luther Saw It:

"For several years I have read the Bible through twice in every twelve months. It is a great and powerful tree, each word of which is a mighty branch; each of these branches have I well shaken, so desirous was I to know what each one bore and what they would give me. And the shaking of them has never disappointed me.

"Would that this one Book were in every language, in every land; before the eyes and in the ears and hearts of all men! Scripture without any comment is the sun whence all teachers receive their light."

How St. Luke Came to the Subanun People

(Continued from page 130)

when translating Luke 8:34, instead of saying the people told of the Gadarene swine "in the city and in the country," it was necessary to say "on the coast and in the mountains."

Among the words that have continually given translators trouble is the word 'grace.' The translators of the Subanun dialect were more fortunate than many. A word was found that had been used



Subanun Bible woman, Mrs. Atetang Imbing

formerly of one who treated slaves with kindness and consideration. While the word had not been in common use for a long time, the natives seemed to understand its significance.

So it is that another forward step has been successfully taken in still another Filipino dialect. The whole Bible has now been translated and published in eight of the languages used by Filipino peoples, and some lesser but substantial part of the Bible into nine more.

"He Lives in the Sticks"

(Continued from page 138)

seat heard it read and commented upon. The Worldwide Bible Reading bookmarks were handed to the congregation as the service was dismissed.

Several of the local stores gave us attractive window displays, usually for periods from ten days to two weeks. One store opposite a park exhibited various editions of Bibles for the blind, accompanied by large signs and educational literature, while other store windows placed copies of various translations, posters and educational signs both large and small. Each window display attracted much attention. It is estimated that 150,000 people saw and read the proclamation between Thanksgiving and Christmas, to say nothing of the many times the same people saw it time and again each day.

One of the department stores devoted a full-page advertisement in the local paper to the American Bible Society, Worldwide Bible Reading and the mayors' proclamation. Another store ran somewhat the same advertisement, giving additional emphasis to church attendance. Four of the banks ran a full-page display of the striking appeal for Bible Reading, Thanksgiving to Christmas, and for Universal Bible Sunday.

What I did as a layman in rather a small way in this small county can be duplicated a thousand times all over the country, if a person is satisfied with small beginnings in small communities, where individual work for individuals is expected as good Christian and as good community practice. This is a job for laymen in cooperation with clergymen, not the reverse.

The Ideal Distributor

(Continued from page 135)

Despite her age Miss Perry is so imbued with the passion to get the Scriptures into the hands of those who cannot afford to buy them, that she is continually at work, never lacking funds, always taking on new responsibilities. She has bought more than \$2,200 worth of Scriptures from the Atlanta District Office in a single year. God give us more workers with the vision to see how white is the harvest and how few are the reapers; with a faith that moves the hearts of people to give; and with an understanding of the Scriptures that convinces and convicts!

MEMBERS' FORUM

[Annual Membership in the Society is secured through a gift of \$5 or more for the carrying on of its work. The Society also provides for Life Membership, Life Directorship and Memorial Membership. Particulars will be sent on request. The editors welcome correspondence from members and devote this page in each issue to that purpose.]

From Paochi, Shensi, China

The *Bible Society Record* has been one of the most interesting papers that come in my mail. Its gleamings regarding the spread of the Word in all countries of the world are a very vitalizing factor in my daily life. I share the reports with the leaders in our Chinese church here, who meet for Bible reading and prayer each morning at dawn. It gives them a world-consciousness as to the need of the Word and in return they pray for your work.

Here in the outposts we appreciate deeply the shipments of Bibles which come from time to time. They sell rapidly—even at the present price of \$12,000 to \$20,000, Chinese national currency. These west provinces are opening up to the Word more than in previous years. We have openings everywhere.

May our never-failing God abundantly supply your every need in the spreading of the Word and may He quicken souls through that Word everywhere!

From Texarkana, Arkansas

For the past two years I have bought American Bible Society Seals and have been receiving literature.

In the *Bible Society Record* for July there was a most appealing article, "A Great Door and Effectual Is Opened."

I am president of the Susanna Wesley Bible Class and used this article in my Sunday morning devotional. It was a very warm Sunday and only ten women were present, but they opened their purses and we took up \$26.50.

As time passes we hope to be able to give more to this most worthy cause.

From Dickerson, Maryland

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the July issue of the *Record*. It fills my heart with joy to see the Good News being sent to every corner of the earth. Enclosed you will find one dollar to help with this great work. I wish that the amount could be more. However,

the Lord willing, I hope to have my own poultry business and before long hope to be sending a larger amount. I hope and pray that the so-called "Iron Curtain" may be lifted, so that the Scriptures may flow into Russia and her bordering neighbors in a number large enough to supply every earnest seeker for the truth.

From Tulsa, Oklahoma

Enclosed find my check for \$25 to aid in the distribution of copies of the Bible and New Testament among the people of the war-devasted countries. We are so eagerly watching the work as it goes forward in Japan. As in the days of Paul, our missionaries are finding there a people weary of their idols and reaching out for the true God. This is truly the time of sowing the seed, and the Lord will bless the harvest. I am thankful I can help this little bit toward the sowing.

From Winter Park, Florida

I cannot put into words strong enough what the Memorial Gift Card meant to me and my daughter, especially just after my dear wife passed away. I was in deep sorrow. We were married 53 years, and I knew her 55 years; and those years were devoted to living the Christian life.

From Wayne, Nebraska

I note with interest the article "A Prayer for Korea," also an excerpt from a letter by Mr. Chung, the secretary, both of which appear in the July issue of the *Bible Society Record*.

I am especially interested in the small country of Korea, because up until about a year ago I had a nephew stationed in the Occupation Forces there.

I am enclosing two dollars for the missionary work there. I won the one-dollar check in a letter-writing contest and decided to match it with a one-dollar bill.

From Whittier, California

The pupils brought their small offering to the Daily Vacation Bible School, 6th Grade, when they went without candy, ice cream, cokes and movies. They agreed it would be a fine thing to send it to the American Bible Society to help buy Bibles. So here is \$2.50.

I believe every pupil of my class will enjoy reading the Bible better and have a desire to "search the Scriptures" further since our summer session on "Our Father's Book."

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Bible Society Record

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to the

Managing Editor

FRANCIS CARR STIFLER

450 Park Avenue

New York 22, N. Y.



Vol. 92 NOVEMBER 1947 No. 9

Daily Bible Readings

NOVEMBER

Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	II Corinthians	1	17	Galatians	3:23-4:20
2	II Corinthians	2	18	Galatians	4:21-5:6
3	II Corinthians	3	19	Galatians	5:7-25
4	II Corinthians	4	20	Galatians	6
5	II Corinthians	5	21	Ephesians	1
6	II Corinthians	6	22	Ephesians	2
7	II Corinthians	7	23	Ephesians	3
8	II Corinthians	8	24	Ephesians	4
9	II Corinthians	9	25	Ephesians	5
10	II Corinthians	10	26	Ephesians	6
11	II Corinthians	11	27	Thanksgiving	
12	II Corinthians	12		Psalms	145
13	II Corinthians	13	28	Psalms	103
14	Galatians	1	29	John	3:1-21
15	Galatians	2	30	John	1:1-18
16	Galatians	3:1-22			

* *

RADIO SERIES ON THE BIBLE

Among the many special radio programs that will mark the Worldwide Bible Reading period and Universal Bible Sunday is a series on the Columbia Broadcasting System's "Church of the Air." These will be heard from coast to coast at 10:00 a.m. EST for six Sundays beginning November 9th. The speakers and themes are as follows:

November 9—"The Old Testament,"

Dr. James Muilenberg, Professor of Hebrew and the cognate languages at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

November 16—"The New Testament," Dr. B. Harvie Branscomb, Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

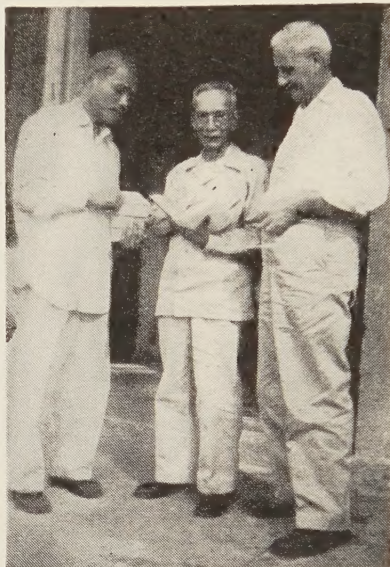
November 23—"The Unity of the Bible," Dr. Abdel Ross Wentz, President of Gettysburg Seminary, Gettysburg, Pa.

November 30—"How Came the Bible," Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed,

noted Bible student, Scholar and translator, Los Angeles, Calif.

December 7—"The Romance of the English Bible," Dr. Julian Price Love, Professor of Biblical Theology, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

December 14—"The Personality of Jesus," Dr. Ernest C. Colwell, President, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.



For two years and a half there were no Bibles available in the Philippine Islands in the Tagalog language, the native tongue used in and about the city of Manila. Earlier this year the first Tagalog Bibles arrived from the United States. The Filipino pastor in the center of the picture above was the first to get a copy of one of these desperately needed books from Secretary Fonger (right) at the Bible House, Manila.

September Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-second year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, September 4, 1947, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Secretary James V. Claypool.

The death on August 14 of Rev. Dr. James Oscar Boyd, retired Secretary for Versions, was reported with deep regret. A Memorial Minute will be adopted by the Board at its next meeting.

The safe arrival of Rev. Lewis M. Bratcher, Jr., newly elected Secretary

of the Brazil Agency, with his family, in Rio de Janeiro, was reported.

Secretary Eugene A. Nida's new book, "Bible Translating," which was just off the press, was presented.

The first dummy copy of the new Japanese Bible, consisting of 1,700 pages, and of which 150,000 copies are to be printed, was presented. Samples of various editions of the English Bible were also presented.

October Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-second year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, October 2, 1947, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Everett Smith.

The death on August 22, 1947 of Mr. Herman J. Schafer, a Vice President of the Society, was reported. The following Memorial Minute was adopted:

The Board of Managers of the American Bible Society records with deep regret the death on August 22, 1947 of Mr. Herman J. Schafer, a Vice President of the Society since June 1920. Mr. Schafer was a member of the Evangelical Church and active at the time of his death in religious circles in his home city, Kansas City, Missouri.

A Memorial Minute on the Rev. Dr. James Oscar Boyd, retired Secretary for Versions, was adopted and will appear in the December *Bible Society Record*.

The resignation of Rev. Dr. Burton S. Easton was accepted with deep regret.

Rev. Dr. Herrick B. Young, who had been requested, while on the Foreign Missions Conference deputation to the Far East, to investigate the situation of the Japan Bible Society and its needs, reported to the Board that there was a real thirst for the Bible in Japan; the Scriptures are being read; and that there was tremendous interest shown by the young people, who represented 90 percent of the large church attendance all over Japan. He also mentioned the great need for paper, ink and binding materials for the printing of the Scriptures in Japan, and that there was equal need for the Scriptures in Korea.

The Board authorized sending to Korea 50,000 English New Testaments and 15,000 Russian New Testaments.

The Board approved of inviting fifty denominations through their official representatives to attend the annual meeting of the Advisory Council on December 2 and 3.

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John Binns
W. H. Ochiltree
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Depositories—To Which Orders for Scriptures Should Be Sent

New York City 22—Bible House, 450 Park Avenue New York, New Jersey, Penna., Del., Maryland, D. C., Virginia, W. Va.

Atlanta 3, Georgia—85 Walton St. No. Carolina, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tenn., Alabama, Mississippi

Chicago 1, Illinois—35 E. Wacker Drive Colorado, New Mexico, Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Utah, Ariz., Ohio, Ky., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Mo., Mich., Wis., Minn., N. Dak., S. Dak., Neb., Kan.

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Central America—Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Bible House, Box J, Cristóbal, Canal Zone

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La Plata—Rev. Charles W. Turner, Ph.D., Calle Paraná 471, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Siam—Rev. Peter A. Voth, 150 Sathorn Rd., Bangkok

China—Rev. Ralph Mortensen, Ph.D., Bible House, 58 Hongkong Rd., Shanghai, China

Japan Bible Society—Mr. K. Hirai, General Secretary, Bible House, 2 Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo

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New Hampshire—Edward A. Dame, 24 Warren St., Concord

Vermont—Rev. Stanley B. Hyde, 189 South Winooski Ave., Burlington

Massachusetts—Rev. F. K. Singiser, D.D., 41 Bromfield St., Boston 8

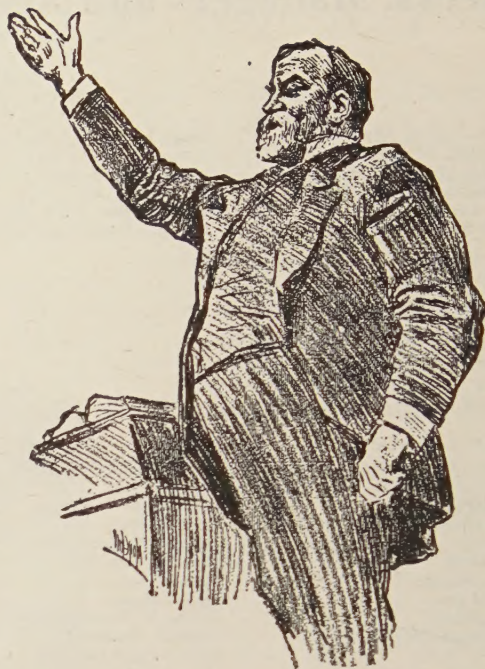
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Rhode Island—Rev. Arthur B. Mercer, 144 Westminster St., Providence 3

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“SEND AROUND A CHECK TO . . THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY,”

said Dwight L. Moody



“Is this Society a good Society? Then maintain it. Keep it up.

“Many men are not willing to get into debt themselves, but they will let the Lord’s work suffer.

“NOW, if you want a good appetite and if you want to sleep, if you have got money, I will tell you what to do. Send around a check to the American Bible Society for \$10,000”

If the great Bible preacher were alive today, he would certainly stress the importance of such sacrificial giving to an even greater extent. For the world is in a far sorrier plight than in his day, and the demand for the Scriptures has assumed a magnitude far beyond what it was when he was speaking.

The Society urges your generous response

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
450 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

Conscious of the great opportunity and need confronting the American Bible Society, and glad to respond to this invitation to share in its work, I send herewith the amount checked.

☐ Please send mecopies of the new booklet, “Which,” with reply envelopes enclosed. I will distribute them prayerfully.

Name.....

Address.....

City..... State.....

\$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$5 ☐ \$1 ☐

JUST PUBLISHED

An attractive new 8-page booklet stressing the importance of giving to aid the Bible Cause. Copies in limited quantities free to those willing to enlist friends and others in the support of the Society.

